

# A Righteous Branch Lesson 3

Isaiah's Ministry 739-698 BC Return to Jerusalem 538 BC "A shoot will spring forth from the stump of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots."

Abraham 2000 BC Moses 1500 BC King David 1000 BC Israel Destroyed 701 BC

Jerusalem Destroyed 586 BC

#### Introduction

So far in Isaiah, we have seen the imagery of mighty trees chopped down.

**Isaiah 1:29,30** - "You will be ashamed because of the sacred oaks in which you have delighted; you will be disgraced because of the gardens that you have chosen. <sup>30</sup> You will be like an oak with fading leaves, like a garden without water.

**Isaiah 6:13** - "And though a tenth remains in the land, it will again be laid waste. But as the terebinth and oak leave stumps when they are cut down, so the holy seed will be the stump in the land."

What does the imagery of tree stump communicate?

Is there any sign of hope in a stump?

## Isaiah 10- "Only a remnant" (10:22)

Read Isaiah 10:20-25

What is verse 20 talking about? (Hint, recall King Ahaz from Isaiah 7)

What would it take for Israel to return to the Lord and trust him again?

Verse 22 references the promise God made to Abraham in Genesis 22:17 - "I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore." Was God revoking this promise?

How is God's judgement described at the end of verse 22?

Is there any glimmer of hope in this section?

Difficult though it may be, who might the Lord refine our faith and redirect us to him?

## Isaiah 11 - "Behold, A Branch is Growing!"

Read Isaiah 10:33-11:1.

We see it again in Isaiah! The law points out sin and gives no hope. Then the light of the gospel pierces the hopelessness. What hope emerges from as you move from chapter 10 to 11?

#### Read Isaiah 11:1-16

We know the shoot/branch coming from the stump of Jesse is Jesus! But let's not simply brush past the rich imagery that Isaiah paint. For the remaining time, let's walk verse by verse through this chapter. As we do, we will see our Savior and his work in greater detail.

vv. 1-3a -

vv. 3b-5 -

vv. 6-9 -

vv. 10-11 -

vv. 12-16 -

# Isaiah 12 - "Surely it is God who saves me!"

Read Isaiah 12:1-6. What's the natural response to what God has done?

## **Further Study**

**Read Isaiah 12-26.** Since this study covers select chapters of Isaiah, each lesson suggests chapters to read at home. By the end of the course, you will have read all of Isaiah. You'll have time at the beginning of each class to share insights from your personal reading or ask questions.